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February 18, 2022

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd  
Chief Clerk/Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, SC 29210

**Re: Allowable Ex Parte Briefings for Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated and Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Incorporated Regarding the Cost of Gas on Natural Gas Prices and Electricity Prices and Its Impact on Customers  
Docket Numbers: ND-2021-39-EG & ND-2021-40-EG**

**Public Information Notice Templates**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

On February 3, 2022, Commission Staff requested input from the Public Service Commission Advisory Committee regarding a Public Information Notice (“PIN”) policy and three Public Information Notice templates. The Advisory Committee was asked to file feedback prior to February 18, 2022 in the above-referenced dockets. After review of the Public Information Notice policy and templates, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (collectively, the “Companies”) provide the following feedback for the Commission’s consideration.

The Companies have reviewed the Public Information Notice policy and templates and appreciate the efforts the Commission and Commission staff are taking to ensure customers are informed of upcoming proceedings. The Companies generally support the proposed Public Information Notice policy and templates and have limited feedback on each of the documents.

**A. Public Information Notice Proposal**

The Companies recommend that the Commission permit the Applicant or Petitioner in a docket to draft the section of the proposed PIN that provides context on the docket for the Commission to adopt. The Companies believe that permitting the Applicant or Petitioner in a particular docket to propose a PIN supports the Commission’s goal to “automate the public information process and streamline [the Commission’s] outreach,” while also avoiding the need for the Commission to opine on or develop messaging around a pending filing. The Companies believe that the messaging of pending filings can have a material impact on public perception and, consistent with Canon 3(B)(9), Code of Judicial Conduct, could affect a proceeding’s outcome or impair its fairness. For these

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reasons, the Companies believe that permitting the Applicant or Petitioner to propose a PIN is a preferable option. As an alternative, the Companies believe the Applicant or Petitioner in a proceeding should be included as part of the “approval contacts” group, referenced as step two of the PIN workflow, since the PIN templates indicate they will include context about the docket and the requests made in the application.

B. Allowable Ex Parte Briefing PIN Template

With respect to the Allowable Ex Parte Briefing PIN template, the Companies note that the first sentence of the template indicates that the Commission requested an allowable ex parte briefing. In some cases, ex parte briefings are requested by parties who wish to provide information to the Commission. The Companies therefore recommend revising this sentence as appropriate to the circumstances of the allowable ex parte briefing request.

C. PIN Templates

As noted above, each of the PIN templates indicate that additional context on the docket will be included in the PIN. It is important that the party who will be giving the allowable ex parte briefing or the Applicant or Petitioner either draft or be included as part of the drafting and review process of this portion of the PIN.

Again, the Companies appreciate the efforts of the Commission and Commission staff in keeping customers well informed of issues coming before the Commission. The Companies believe these minor adjustments to the Public Information Notice proposal and templates will assist in providing customers with accurate and reliable information, while remaining compliant with the Code of Judicial Conduct.

By copy of this letter, I am serving all parties of record via electronic mail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katie M Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie M. Brown

cc: Parties of record